

Governor's Office,
Austin, Texas, April 1, 1913.

To the House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without approval, House bill No. 59. This act proposes the erection of memorials to commemorate the unselfish devotion to duty, exalted patriotism, and heroic services of Texas soldiers during the war between the States, on the battlefields of Chickamauga, Vicksburg, Shiloh, Gettysburg and in the National Military Park.

I am not adverse to building these monuments. On these battlefields my relatives served their States and poured out their blood in defense of the rights of local self-government, but we have a task in Texas which calls for attention, and a duty which demands performance in taking care of the helpless, the insane and caring for the living who need the aid of the State's charity.

The Legislature is about to adjourn without making these provisions. The appropriations already made by this session and previous sessions have exhausted available revenues, and it is with the sincerest regret that I find it an absolute business necessity to return this bill to the House of Representatives without approval.

Respectfully submitted,
O. B. COLQUITT,
Governor of Texas.